

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

DOROTHY BANTA,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A.,  
Defendant.

) Case No.  
)  
) PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR  
) DAMAGES  
) (Telephone Consumer Protection Act)  
)  
)  
)

**COMPLAINT**

DOROTHY BANTA (“Plaintiff”), by and through her attorneys, alleges the following against CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A. (“Defendant”):

1. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself individually seeking damages and any other available legal or equitable remedies resulting from the illegal actions of Defendant, in negligently, knowingly, and/or willfully contacting Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (hereinafter "TCPA"), 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., and the Texas Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (hereinafter "TFDCPA"), Tex. Fin. Code § 392.001 et. seq.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. Defendant conducts business in the state of Texas, and therefore, personal jurisdiction is established. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1391(b)(2).

3. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(3). See, Mims v. Arrow Financial Services, LLC, 565 U.S. 368 (2012), holding that federal and state courts have concurrent jurisdiction over private suits arising under the TCPA and 28

1 U.S.C. § 1367 grants this court supplemental jurisdiction over the state claims contained  
2 herein.

- 3 4. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas  
5 pursuant to 28 U.S.C § 1391(b) because Plaintiff resides within this District and a  
6 substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the herein claims occurred, or a  
7 substantial part of property that is the subject of the action is situated within this District.

8 **PARTIES**

- 9 5. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in the county of Ector, in the city of Odessa, Texas.  
10 6. Defendant is a Virginia corporation doing business in the state of Texas. Defendant's  
11 headquarters are located in McLean, Virginia.  
12 7. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Defendant has acted through its agents, employees,  
13 officers, members, directors, heir, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties,  
14 subrogees, representatives and insurers.

15 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 16 8. Defendant placed collection calls to Plaintiff seeking and attempting to collect on alleged  
17 debts owed by Plaintiff.  
18 9. Defendant placed collection calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone at phone number (432)  
19 257-94XX.  
20 10. Defendant placed collection calls to Plaintiff from phone numbers including, but not  
21 limited to, (800) 955-6600, (866) 953-7906.  
22 11. Per its prior business practices, Defendant's calls were placed with an automated telephone  
23 dialing system ("auto-dialer").  
24  
25

- 1       12. Defendant used an “automatic telephone dialing system”, as defined by 47 U.S.C. §  
2           227(a)(1) to place its telephone calls to Plaintiff seeking to collect a consumer debt  
3           allegedly owed by Plaintiff, DOROTHY BANTA.
- 4       13. Defendant’s calls did not constitute calls for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C.  
5           § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 6       14. Defendant’s calls were placed to a telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone  
7           service for which Plaintiff incurs a charge for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §  
8           227(b)(1).
- 9       15. Defendant never received Plaintiff’s “prior express consent” to receive calls using an  
10           automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice on her cellular  
11           telephone pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 12       16. On October 26, 2017 Plaintiff called into Defendant’s company at phone number (800)  
13           955-6600. Plaintiff spoke with Defendant’s female representative and requested that  
14           Defendant cease calling Plaintiff’s cellular phone.
- 15       17. During the conversation, Plaintiff gave her social security number and date of birth to  
16           assist Defendant’s representative in accessing her account before asking Defendant to stop  
17           calling her cell phone.
- 18       18. Plaintiff revoked any consent, explicit, implied, or otherwise, to call her cellular telephone  
19           and/or to receive Defendant’s calls using an automatic telephone dialing system in her  
20           conversation with Defendant’s representative on October 26, 2017.
- 21       19. Despite Plaintiff’s requests to cease, Defendant continued to place collection calls to  
22           Plaintiff after October 26, 2017.
- 23
- 24
- 25

1           20. Despite Plaintiff's request that Defendant cease placing automated collection calls,  
2           Defendant placed at least seventy-two (72) automated calls to Plaintiff's cell phone.  
3

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

**NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**

**47 U.S.C. § 227**

5           21. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set  
6           forth above at Paragraphs 1-20.  
7

8           22. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple  
9           negligent violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the  
10          above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.  
11

12          23. As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., Plaintiff is  
13          entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation,  
14          pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(3)(B).  
15

16          24. Plaintiff is also entitled to seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.  
17

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

**KNOWING AND/OR WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER  
PROTECTION ACT**

**47 U.S.C. § 227 et. seq.**

18          25. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set  
19           forth above at Paragraphs 1-20.  
20

21          26. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple knowing  
22           and/or willful violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of  
23           the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.  
24

27. As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., Plaintiff is entitled an award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).

28. Plaintiff is also entitled to seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

**THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE TFDCPA**  
**TEX. FIN. CODE § 392.001 et. seq.**

29. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-20.

30. Defendant violated the Texas Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Tex. Fin. Code § 392.302(4). Defendant's violations of TFDCPA include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Defendant violated TFDCPA, Tex. Fin. Code § 392.302(4) by causing Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously and making repeated or continuous telephone calls, with the intent to harass Plaintiff at the called number.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, DOROTHY BANTA, respectfully requests judgment be entered against Defendant, CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A., for the following:

## **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

29. For statutory damages of \$500.00 multiplied by the number of TCPA violations alleged herein (72): \$36,000.00.

30. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial;

## **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

31. For statutory damages of multiplied by the number of TCPA violations alleged herein  
(72): \$108,000.00;

32. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial;

### **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

33. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the Texas Fair Debt Collection Practices Act;
34. Statutory damages of \$100.00;
35. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial.
36. Litigation costs and reasonably billed attorney's fees after a trial on the merits.

## **ON ALL CAUSES OF ACTION**

37. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial;
38. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees;
39. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

40. Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all issues so triable.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Dated: July 3, 2018

By: /s/ Dorothy Kathleen Lawrence  
Dorothy Kathleen Lawrence  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Dorothy Butler Law Firm  
28515 Ranch Road 12,  
Dripping Springs, TX 78620  
T: (512) 369-3535  
E: Dorothy@dorothybutlerlawfirm.com